

****FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****

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Jackson County CASA to Host ‘Stroke for Hope’ Golf Tournament

4/9/2009 - April is Child Abuse Prevention Month. The Jackson County Court Appointed Special Advocates (or CASA) is raising money to help to end the cycle of child abuse in our community by hosting the 1st Annual **Stroke for Hope Golf Tournament** on April 18th, 2009.

Beginning at 8 am, golfers will tee off at the Mississippi National Golf Course in Gautier, MS and compete for many prizes including trips, sporting tickets and spa packages. We will even raffle off a chance to win \$1,000,000.

CASA board member Dustin Thomas is an avid golfer and has been working with the rest of the board to put this event together. “I’ve participated in I can’t tell you how many golf tournaments over the years and the Stroke for Hope is going to be the best ever. We are giving away vacation packages to the members of first and second place teams. We are also giving golfers the chance to win big with our putting, longest-drive, and hole-in-one contests,” Thomas said, “If I weren’t working the fundraiser, I’d definitely be competing.”

CASA volunteers are appointed by judges to be a voice for abused and/or neglected children in court. The volunteers befriend the children and show them that someone does care. The result is these children are placed into safe, loving homes where they can thrive and officially end the cycle of child abuse.

“I’m not one to turn away and act like child abuse doesn’t exist. As a former police officer, I can’t tell you how many cases of child abuse and neglect I have seen,” Thomas says, “It’s just plain sick what some children go through. And that’s why I’m with CASA. I know CASA volunteers are making a difference in these children’s lives. By taking part in our golf tournament, you are making a difference too.”

If you want to find out more about the Stroke for Hope, please log on to the website at www.strokeforhope.com. There you can register a team or even sponsor the event. We appreciate all the support we can get.

We would like to thank our sponsors for helping make this event a success: City of Ocean Springs, Biloxi Regional, Denham Law Firm, the Vetter Halves Golf Coast Corvette Club, Zachry Construction, Walgreens, American Legion Post 1992, Jerry Lee’s, and BP.
